



# News Release

## *Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge*

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[www.fws.gov/northeast/greatdismalswamp](http://www.fws.gov/northeast/greatdismalswamp)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Refuge Manager

### Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge Announces Fall Deer Hunt Program

Suffolk, Virginia— Details of the 2006 deer hunt program for the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge were released today by Refuge Manager Suzanne Baird.

The annual shotgun/archery deer hunt dates have been scheduled for October 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28, November 3, 4, 2006. Applications for the refuge permit will be accepted from August 1-September 15, 2006. Hunters may purchase the permit by sending their name, current address, and telephone number (including area code) on a 3 X 5 index card to the Great Dismal Swamp NWR, 3100 Desert Road, Suffolk, Virginia 23434, Attn: Deer Hunt. A check or money order for \$15.00 (non-refundable permit fee), made payable to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, must accompany the application card. All applications (with fee) must be received in the refuge office no later than September 15, 2006. In addition to the refuge deer hunt permit, hunters will need to have the appropriate state hunting license and tags to participate in this hunt.

The refuge will offer one scouting day on September 30, 2006. Hunters are encouraged to use this day to scout the refuge and familiarize themselves with the area. All individuals must have a valid refuge deer hunt permit to enter the refuge on the scouting and deer hunt days. No guest are allowed to accompany permitted hunters.

Of special note regarding this year's deer hunt:

- The refuge continues to be involved in a habitat management project to restore areas of Atlantic white cedar forest damaged during Hurricane Isabel. In conjunction with this project, for safety reasons, the Railroad Ditch entrance will be closed to all hunting. In addition, in the Corapeake Ditch entrance, there will be a "No Hunting Area" north of Corapeake Ditch Road east to Forest Line Ditch Road.
- Hunters will need to be alert for minor changes to the refuge hunting regulations found in this year's deer hunt permit package. Most important is a new regulation requiring the unloading and encasing or dismantling of all firearms being transported in a motorized vehicle on refuge roads. Other changes include clarifications to current regulations regarding hunter orange requirements and hunt dog retrieval conditions.

Individuals who have a Golden Age or Golden Access Passport will receive a 50% discount on the deer hunt fee. The Golden Age Passport is for individuals who are 62 years of age or older. The Golden Age Passport has a \$10.00 lifetime fee. The Golden Access Passport is free and is for individuals of all ages who are disabled. These passports must be applied for in person and proof of age and/or disability, such as a driver's license, is required. Both passports are available at the refuge headquarters during business hours.

For further information please contact the Refuge office at 757/ 986-3705 during business hours of Monday-Friday, from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm. For additional hunt information, see [www.fws.gov/northeast/greatdismalswamp](http://www.fws.gov/northeast/greatdismalswamp).